

In doses of from three to five milligrammes, the effects of eserine are constant; I have only seen three children in whom they failed,

Usually, eserine causes paleness, with narrowing of the pulse, sometimes followed by retardation.

Nearly all the children treated with eserine, have suffered from *malaise*; have complained loudly of epigastric distress, with gastralgia, nausea, and expectoration of watery, glutinous matter.

Eserine sometimes causes bilious vomiting.

It does not alter the bodily temperature.

It has in no case, in the doses I have indicated, produced either colic or diarrhoea.

Given internally, eserine leaves the pupil in its normal condition of contractility; it is only exceptionally otherwise.

Eserine often causes a rather marked perspiration of the face and body.

Paresis of the diaphragm, and even its temporary paralysis, are the most serious and painful symptoms observed after the injection of five milligrammes of eserine.

When the drug has exhausted its action, the children take on their usual condition; there seem to be no after effects.

Eserine is not found in the urine after the employment of the small doses I have indicated.

Administered in cases of chorea, eserine arrests the choreic movements during the time of its action, and gradually moderates them in the interval, in such a manner as to cure the disease in an average period, which I have estimated to be ten days.

The effects of the eserine in chorea, are more certain when given hypodermically, than when given by the mouth.

I have never seen eserine produce tremor or convulsions, and it is probable that these accidents can only be caused by massive and toxic doses.

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REST IN TETANUS.—Dr. Renzi (*Gazetta Medica Italia Prov. di Ven.*) finds that, both in animals and human beings attacked by tetanus, light renders the tetanic contractions more frequent and more intense. It may, likewise, be experimentally demonstrated on animals, that absolute rest and the absence of every cause of excitement render tetanus less violent and less fatal. Of three cases of acute tetanus in which complete rest alone was employed, two were cured. The patients were placed in a perfectly dark and isolated room; every noise and excitement was avoided; and the patients were only visited at long intervals to give them drink. In the fatal case, hydrate of chloral had been administered in the form of injection, and seemed to still further impede the respiration, already affected by the progress of the disease (*British Med. Journal*, May 29).

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ALCOHOL.—A. Schmidt (*Centralblatt f. d. Med. Wissensch.*, No. 23) gives an account of a series of ten experiments performed by him in the laboratory of Prof. Binz, of Bonn, as to the elimination of alcohol by the lungs. The

tests used were the vaporimeter of Muspratt, and the reagents, bichromate of potash and iodoform. The results seemed to show that only a mere trace of the alcohol ingested could be detected in the respiration.

At the session of the Soc. de Biologie, April 24 (reported in *Gaz. des Hopitaux*), M. Wisstraten communicated the results he had obtained in making injections of alcohol in frogs. If a small quantity is injected, we obtain a powerful contraction of the arteries, lasting from fifty minutes to two hours. The veins dilate, at first show a momentary dilatation which is soon replaced by a contraction which lasts a longer time than that of the arteries. The heart-beats sensibly diminish. At the beginning of the experiment, the animal executes instinctive movements, but there soon follows a complete anæsthesia, during which only spasmodic motions are produced. The reflex movements are abolished, then the sensibility gradually returns as the action of the alcohol becomes exhausted.

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ANTAGONISM OF JABORANDI AND ATROPIA.—Prof. Vulpian, experimenting on these remedies, discovered the following facts (reported in *Gaz. des Hopitaux*, No. 47):

1. That it was sufficient to inject a certain quantity (about sixty grains) of a solution of jaborandi into the crural vein of a dog, to cause a considerable increase in the salivary and biliary secretions, which on the other hand were completely suppressed if the administration of the jaborandi was followed by a like injection of sulphate of atropia.

2. That jaborandi placed directly on the heart or injected under the skin of a frog, produced a considerable slowing, and even a complete arrest of that organ, while it again took on its activity and normal frequency under the influence of atropia. The same experiment repeated on the dog gave similar results.

3. Finally, the extract of jaborandi causes a myosis nearly as considerable as that from calabar bean; and here again, sulphate of atropia easily overcomes the effects produced by the first named drug.

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CEREBROSCOPY.—At one of his last Tuesday clinics at the Hospital des Enfants Malades, M. Bouchut called together a number of his Paris confreres, and with them one professor of Montpellier, to demonstrate before them, in a special conference, the results of his labors in medical ophthalmoscopy and cerebroscopy or encephaloscopy.

He first sketched the anatomical and physiological relations of the eye with the brain or spinal cord, and next he explained the influence of cerebro-spinal lesions on the optic nerve, the retina, and the choroid.

He next indicated the laws of the formation of intra-ocular lesions depending on disease of the brain, cord and meninges.

These laws are four in number:

1. Whenever the cranial circulation is interrupted, either in the sinuses and meningeal veins by compression of the ventricles distended with serous fluid, or by any other cause, an arrest of the venous circulation takes place which produces in the eye swelling, hyperæmia, and œdema of the papilla, varicosity of the veins, and sometimes hæmorrhages.